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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to: MS Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: February 22, 2007

Signature

James J. Napoli
(James J. Napoli)

Docket No.: 29827/42090
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Ulrich Riegel et al.

Application No.: 10/581,562

Confirmation No.: 6209

Filed: June 2, 2006

Art Unit: 3761

For: SWELLABLE HYDROGEL-FORMING
POLYMERS HAVING A LOW FRACTION
OF FINES

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants hereby bring to the examiner's attention patent documents that may be material to the examination of the above-identified application. Therefore, in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, applicants enclose a completed Form PTO/SB/08 listing the possibly pertinent patent documents and a copy of each non-U.S. patent document.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted more than three months after the filing date of the above-identified application, and, to applicants' knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement shall be considered by the Patent Office.

The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee which may be required during the pendency of this application under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 37 C.F.R. 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this Transmittal is enclosed herewith.

We also enclose a copy of a PCT Search Report for the convenience of the examiner.

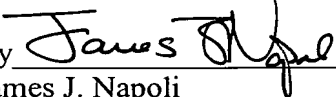
3

Please note that:

- (a) WO 92/13912 is equivalent to U.S. Patent Nos. 5,346,986 and 5,684,107;
- (b) EP 0 679 678 is equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 5,681,828; and
- (c) EP 0 755 964 is equivalent to U.S. Patent No. 5,840,321.

Dated: February 22, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

By 

James J. Napoli

Registration No.: 32,361

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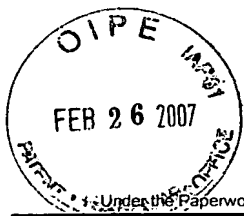
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PTO/SB/08A/B (09-06)
Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	29827/42090
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Complete if Known

Application Number	10/581,562-Conf. #6209
Filing Date	June 2, 2006
First Named Inventor	Ulrich Riegel
Art Unit	3761
Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	29827/42090

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-5,275,838	01-04-1994	Merrill	
		US-5,346,986	09-13-1994	Schneider et al.	
		US-5,589,256	12-31-1996	Hansen et al.	
		US-5,641,561	06-24-1997	Hansen et al.	
		US-5,681,878	10-28-1997	Klotzsche et al.	
		US-5,684,107	11-04-1997	Schneider et al.	
		US-5,840,321	11-24-1998	Engelhardt et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		WO-92/13912	08-20-1992	Basf Ag		✓
		WO-94/22940	10-13-1994	Dow Chemical Co et al.		
		EP-0 679 678	11-02-1995	Cassella Farbwerke Mainkur Ag		✓
		EP-0 755 964	01-29-1997	Hoechst Ag		✓
		WO-03/20978	03-13-2003	Samsung Electronics Co Ltd		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		International Search Report in PCT/EP2004/014396 dated April 22, 2005.	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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